



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 2

290 BROADWAY

NEW YORK, NY 10007-1866

JUL 29 2009

Joseph J. Schwartz, Jr.
Environmental/ Natural Resources Division
Department of the Army
Building 3317, Snyder Lane
Fort Dix, New Jersey 08640-5501

Dear Mr. Schwartz:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed upgrade, modernization, and transformation of the Range Training Complex at Fort Dix, New Jersey. The proposed project area is located in Burlington and Ocean Counties in eastern-central New Jersey. The modification and transformation of the existing ranges would better accommodate the training requirements due to the anticipated changes in Army and other agencies' organizational structures, and mobilization requirements.

The upgrade/modernization and transformation of the Fort Dix Range Training Complex will allow for systematic modifications to the existing training structure and facilities to support the evolution of the Army into Brigade Units of Action and accommodate the various needs of federal, state and local military and homeland security customers. Based on the information in the EA, EPA would like to use this opportunity to encourage the Department of the Army and the contractors of this project to implement green practices and techniques during the design and operation of the project.

For example, air emissions during construction will include particulate matter (PM_{2.5} and PM₁₀). To reduce the potential health and environmental impacts of these pollutants in the project area and to improve the conditions for the workers, the installation of diesel particulate filters (DPF) on construction equipment should be considered. DPFs can reduce diesel particulate emissions by 90 percent for stationary and non-stationary diesel equipment. To learn more about this technology and its application, you may reference DPFs at <http://www.epa.gov/oms/retrofit/nonroad-list.htm> or contact us directly.

To meet electrical needs during construction and operation of the range complex, EPA recommends obtaining electricity from alternative and/ or renewable sources. The Department of Energy offers the newly developed Renewable Energy Incentive Program. The program provides incentives and support services needed for participants to build renewable energy projects using solar, wind and biopower technologies. In addition, the Department of Energy's "Green Power Network" (GPN) provides information and markets that can be used to supply alternative generated electricity. The following link identifies several suppliers of renewable energy in New Jersey.

http://apps3.eere.energy.gov/greenpower/buying/buying_power.shtml?state=NJ



Thank you for the opportunity to review this document. Should you have any questions concerning our comments, please contact Charles Harewood, of my staff, at (212) 637-3753.

Sincerely yours,

Grace Musumeci, Chief
Environmental Review Section
Strategic Planning and Multi-Media Programs Branch

cc: K. Collins, AEP

JUL 2 8 2009

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http://www.eia.doe.gov/energynewswatch/power_supply/energy.html